

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-17 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 18-31 are added. The following is the status of the claims of the above-captioned application, as amended.

Claims 1-17 (Cancelled.)

Claim 18. (New.) A coated granule comprising a core and a coating, wherein the core comprises a uniform mixture of a detergent enzyme having an alkaline pH activity optimum, and at least 10% w/w of acidic buffer component, wherein said acidic buffer component has a pH of 1 to below 7 when measured as a 10 % aqueous solution and a pK_a in the range of 4 to 9 and is selected from the group consisting of phosphates, citrates, citric acid, malonic acid, succinic acid, glutaric acid and adipic acid.

Claim 19. (New.) The granule according to claim 18, wherein the pH of the acidic buffer component is 3 to below 7.

Claim 20. (New.) The granule according to claim 18, wherein the pK_a of the acidic buffer component is 5 to 7.

Claim 21. (New.) The granule according to claim 18, further comprising an acidic buffer component in the coating.

Claim 22. (New.) The granule according to claim 21, wherein the amount of acidic buffer component present in the core is more than 20 % of the total amount of acidic buffer component present in the granule.

Claim 23. (New.) The granule according to claim 21, wherein the acidic buffer component in the core and in the coating are different.

Claim 24. (New.) The granule according to claim 21, wherein the acidic buffer component in the core has a pH of 4 to below 7 and the acidic buffer component in the coating has a pH of 1 to 5.

Claim 25. (New.) The granule according to claim 18 comprising at least 25 % w/w of acidic buffer component in the core.

Claim 26. (New.) The granule according to claim 18 comprising at least 40 % w/w of acidic buffer component in the core.

Claim 27. (New.) The granule according to claim 18, wherein the acidic buffer components are selected from the group consisting of NaH_2PO_4 , KH_2PO_4 , $\text{Ca}(\text{H}_2\text{PO}_4)_2$ and sodium hexametaphosphate or mixtures thereof.

Claim 28. (New.) The granule according to claim 18, wherein the acidic buffer components is $\text{Na}_2\text{H-citrate}$.

Claim 29. (New.) A detergent composition comprising a granule of claim 18.

Claim 30. (New.) A process for preparing granules of claim 18 comprising preparing a core comprising a detergent enzyme having an alkaline pH activity optimum and at least 10% w/w of acidic buffer component having a pH of 1 to below 7 when measured as a 10 % aqueous solution and a pKa in the range of 4 to 9, and coating the core with a coating material.

Claim 31. (New.) The process according to claim 30, wherein the granule is prepared in a mixer, a fluid bed, a fluidized spray dryer, a spray fluidizer, a spray dryer or an extruder.